

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 have been examined, while claims 28-36 have been withdrawn from consideration. By this amendment, claims 1-36 are canceled without disclaimer or prejudice to the filing of a continuing application.

New claims 37-69 have been added. Claims 37, 38, 54, 55, and 64 are independent claims. The new claims are directed to elected Group I and are fully supported in the original specification at least by the original claims and the non-limiting embodiments shown in Figs. 4-17 of the specification, as well as the descriptions of these figures.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103

Claims 1, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by Arai (US 6,528,864). Claims 2-3 and 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Arai in view of Applicant's Figures 1-3. Claims 4-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Arai in view of Applicant's Figures 1-3, and in further view of Higashi et al. (US 6,528,864). Claims 9-11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Arai. Claims 20-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Yamada et al. (US 5,327,517) in view of Arai.

While Applicants traverse these rejections, Applicants have canceled claims 1-27, rendering these rejections moot.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 12 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being allegedly indefinite. Claim 12 has been canceled, rendering this rejection moot.

New Claims

Applicants submit that new claims 37-69 are allowable at least because none of the cited references individually or in combination teaches or suggest all of the claim recitations.

Claims 37, 41, 43-50, and 52

For example, with respect to independent claim 37, none of the cited references individually or in combination teaches or suggests the claimed chip in which the optical waveguide has a curved part, and said substrate includes a surface having a curvature that substantially follows the curved part of said optical waveguide. Arai, which the Examiner alleges shows a chip P2 having irregular curved shapes, clearly does not teach or suggest any relationship between the curvature a surface of the chip P2 and a curved part of a waveguide. In addition, none of the other cited references makes up for this deficiency.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully request the Examiner to allow claim 37, and to allow claims 41, 43-50, and 52 at least because of their dependency from claim 37.

Claims 38-42, 51, and 53

Similarly, with respect to independent claim 38, none of the cited references individually or in combination teaches or suggests the claimed chip in which the optical waveguide has a curved part, and said substrate includes a side surface having a curvature that substantially follows the curved part of said optical waveguide.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully request the Examiner to allow claim 38, and to allow claims 39-42, 51, and 55 at least because of their dependency from claim 38.

Claim 54, 56, 58, 60, and 62

With respect to independent claim 54, none of the cited references individually or in combination teaches or suggests the claimed wafer in which each optical waveguide has a curved part, and an area of each said chip is delimited by a curved-line portion having a curvature that substantially follows the curved part of said optical waveguide of each said chip.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully request the Examiner to allow claim 54, and to allow claims 56, 58, 60, and 62 at least because of their dependency from claim 54.

Claims 55, 57, 59, 61, and 63

With respect to independent claim 55, none of the cited references individually or in combination teaches or suggests the claimed wafer in which each the optical waveguide has a curved part, and the boundary of each said chip includes a curved-line portion having a curvature that substantially follows the curved part of said optical waveguide of each said chip.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully request the Examiner to allow claim 54, and to allow claims 56, 58, 60, and 62 at least because of their dependency from claim 54.

Claims 64-69

With respect to independent claim 60, none of the cited references individually or in combination teaches or suggests the claimed module in which the optical waveguide has a curved part, and said substrate includes a side surface having a curvature that substantially follows the curved part of said optical waveguide.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
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Therefore, Applicant respectfully request the Examiner to allow claim 54, and to allow claims 56, 58, 60, and 62 at least because of their dependency from claim 54.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

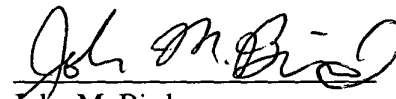
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